

What's in this Issue

Articles.....	Page 1
Accreditation	Page 4
Funding Opportunities.....	Page 5
Training and Conference Announcements.....	Page 6
News and Resources.....	Page 8
Job Postings.....	Page 10

2016 Kansas Governor's Public Health Conference Registration is Now Open

*by the Local Public Health Program,
Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE*



The 2016 Kansas Governor's Public Health Conference will open with the pre-conference sessions April 26 and general conference April 27-28 at the Marriott in Wichita.

The public health pre-conference session, Tuesday, April 26, will include an interactive session by the Public Health Law Center and a session by the Wichita State University Center for Public Health Initiatives on addressing planned or emergency staffing changes; the Maternal Child Health pre-conference session provides opportunities to learn more about the Title V Maternal & Child Health (MCH) program and Title X Family Planning guidelines.

New this year—the conference committee has partnered with the [Kansas Alliance for Drug Endangered Children](#) (KADEC). KADEC will host an all-day pre-conference session, Tuesday, April 26, which will be beneficial for front line staff. Topics include current drug trends, how to identify children living in drug environments and adverse childhood experiences.

The two day general conference will feature state and nationally recognized keynote speakers on topics including the impact of childhood stress and trauma on adult health outcomes, cultural competency, recent disease outbreaks and emerging threats, and the impact of prescription drug abuse on public health. In addition, a wide selection of breakout sessions tailored to meet the changing needs of the populations served through public health programs and initiatives will be offered.

The Maternal Child Health and Healthy Start Home Visitor sessions will address safe sleep, developmental screenings, safe homes, infant child development and mental health, tobacco cessation during pregnancy, home visitor safety, bullying prevention and intervention, and more.

The public health sessions will include adverse childhood experiences, public health law, quality improvement, environmental health, chronic disease self-management in schools, sexual violence prevention in schools, e-cigarettes and other learning opportunities. The conference will also include café sessions which offer participants an opportunity to participate in a range of focused topics including EpiTrax, Catalyst, oral health, breastfeeding, workforce development initiatives and more in a roundtable setting.

Registration for the 2016 Kansas Governor's Public Health Conference is through KS-TRAIN at <http://ks.train.org>, Course ID# 1062257. [Click here](#) to access the conference brochure.

How is Public Health Benefiting Your Community? KPHA wants your statements for NPHW



What does public health mean to you? Has your community or agency recently demonstrated its commitment to public health through a new initiative or achievement? The Kansas Public Health Association (KPHA) is looking for examples of local happenings to include in the association's communications around National Public Health Week (NPHW). NPHW is April 4 - 10. This annual observance gives organizations like ours an opportunity to tout the many benefits to funding and supporting our public health system. This is where you come in.

Submit your statement in an email to kpha@kpha.us, and they will share it in a variety of communications during NPHW. Here's how:

- Email KPHA a statement or paragraph no longer than 5 sentences.
- Answer: "How has public health improved my community?"
- You can share something that's happened recently, or simply share a general statement on what public health means to you.

KPHA needs to hear from you by March 25. This cut-off for statements will give KPHA time to prepare several communication items for NPHW. Your name or agency will only be used alongside your statement if we have your permission in writing.

Healthcare Associated Infections Program Launches New Publication

by Joseph Scaletta, Director, HAI, KDHE



The [Sammelweis Times](#) is a new publication from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment's (KDHE) Health Associated Infections (HAI) program. The publication will highlight late-breaking infection prevention and control research, training opportunities, and resources geared specifically for infection preventionists working in acute care settings. Joseph Scaletta, Director, HAI, KDHE thought it would be appropriate that in the inaugural issue, the program would pay tribute to the newsletter's namesake Ignaz Semmelweis, the father of hand hygiene. Additionally, HAI has included new data regarding antimicrobial prescribing practices and suggestions for monitoring hand hygiene compliance. Please know that KDHE welcomes your comments and suggestions, so if there's something that you would like to see within these pages, send your ideas so they can be published. Questions can be directed to jscaletta@kdheks.gov.

USDA, NFL, America's Dairy Farmers & Fuel Up to Play 60 Partner to Award \$35 Million to Help Schools Serve Healthier Meals, Strengthen Childhood Nutrition

by Marley Sugar, Midwest Dairy Council



Funding provided through this partnership will support the purchase of new equipment and the renovation or replacement of existing equipment. It will make it easier for schools and districts to serve healthy meals that are tasty and appealing to kids, *and* have more whole grains, fruits, vegetables, lean protein, low-fat dairy, and less sodium and fat to meet updated nutrition standards. Since 2009, USDA has awarded \$215 million in school nutrition equipment grants. However, the simple need for up-to-date equipment and adequate appliances is still one of the biggest obstacles to providing quality nutrition to kids in schools across the country. To read more [click here](#).

This public-private partnership showcases our nation's collective commitment to the next generation and the powerful results that can be achieved through inter-organizational cooperation. Through this collaborative effort, schools can apply for funds through USDA state agencies, or through the [Fuel Up to Play 60 website](#).

NHSC Loan Repayment Program – Applications Due April 5



The National Health Service Corps (NHSC) is now [accepting applications](#) through April 5, 6:30 p.m. [2016 Application and Program Guidance](#) has the detailed information you need to apply. Please read carefully before you start your Loan Repayment Program application.

Primary care medical, dental and mental/behavioral health clinicians can get up to \$50,000 to repay their health profession student loans in exchange for a two-year commitment to work at an approved NHSC site in a high-need, underserved area. The payment is free from Federal income tax and is made at the beginning of service so you can more quickly pay down your loans. Approved sites are located across the U.S., in both urban and rural areas.

After completing your initial service commitment, you can apply to extend your service and receive additional loan repayment assistance. The amount you receive and length of your commitment depends on where you serve, service at sites in higher need areas yields greater loan repayments. It also depends on whether you select the full-time or half-time option. See the [2016 Application and Program Guidance](#) (PDF - 401 KB) for details. See if your site is already approved at the [NHSC Jobs Center](#).

Recruiting Stepping On Program Leaders

by the Bureau of Health Promotion, KDHE



Stepping On is a program that helps older adults reduce falls. The program incorporates a range of issues including falls and risks, strength and balance exercises, medication review, vision exams, home safety, safe footwear, and what to do and how to cope after a fall. The Stepping On course consists of seven two-hour weekly classes, a home assessment at three months and a six-month follow-up. Stepping On is research-based and scientifically proven to reduce falls by more than 30 percent among participants.

Individuals who have successfully completed a three-day Leader Training facilitate Stepping On community workshops. Stepping On Master Trainers are holding a Leader Training on May 3, 4 and 5 in WaKeeney. If you are interested in learning more about becoming a Stepping On Leader in Kansas, please contact Lori Haskett at 785-296-8163 or Lhaskett@kdheks.gov. Visit <https://wihealthyaging.org/stepping-on> to learn more about Stepping On.

EDW Provider Trainings and Contracts

by the Bureau of Health Promotion, KDHE



The Early Detection Works (EDW) program provides life-saving breast and cervical cancer services to low income, uninsured and underinsured women in Kansas. In-person provider staff trainings for the EDW payment submission process are being held in central and western Kansas during March and April. Northeast and southeast Kansas EDW providers have received the training and attendee evaluations were positive regarding the efficiency of the training, the ease of use of the data system and the helpfulness of the provider handbook. Please contact your EDW regional nurse for a list of trainings coming to your region.

EDW providers in all regions of the state have received new contracts. If you are an EDW provider and have not received a contract, or if you are interested in becoming an EDW provider, please contact Liz Varner at 785-296-1207.

Local Public Health Program Welcomes Kelley to New Role at KDHE

*by Cristi Cain, Director, Local Public Health Program and Accreditation Coordinator,
Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE*



Karen Kelley has recently joined the Local Public Health Program staff as the Catalyst/TRAIN Project Manager. Prior to her current position, she worked for the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Office of Information Technology for 10 years. She has been employed by the State of Kansas for over 21 years. Karen earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Kansas State University and brings extensive experience in providing excellent customer service and technical assistance to her new position. Welcome, Karen!

National School Breakfast Week, March 7-11, Wake Up to School Breakfast

by Marley Sugar, Midwest Dairy Council



National School Breakfast Week (NSBW) is a weeklong celebration of the national School Breakfast Program. Schools celebrate with decorations, events, special menu items, etc. Increasing breakfast participation is a goal for many schools and NSBW is the perfect time to bring attention to your breakfast program. Whether it's Breakfast in the Classroom, Grab N' Go Breakfast, or Second Chance Breakfast, there are many ways to help students enjoy the most important meal of the day. Check out [Midwest Dairy Council's blog](#) the week of March 7 to find out how schools are fueling greatness with breakfast in schools.

NBPHE Announces New CPH Eligibility Criteria



The National Board of Public Health Examiners (NBPHE) board of directors announced a [new eligibility criteria](#) for the Certified in Public Health (CPH) exam. Individuals who have a bachelor's degree and at least five subsequent years' public health work experience will be eligible to take the CPH exam. This decision was made following the completion of a pilot test for this eligibility. The pilot test was conducted to determine whether individuals could acquire the foundational knowledge and skills needed to pass the CPH exam through work experience. Over 700 individuals applied to participate in the pilot study.

The CPH credential was created as an outcome of a movement to professionalize the field of public health. The leaders who initially envisioned the CPH credential intended it to be a credential for anyone who worked to improve public health, who identified themselves as a public health professional, and who possessed core knowledge of the field. Up to now, eligibility for the exam was restricted to current students enrolled in a [Council on Education for Public Health](#) (CEPH) accredited school or program who had completed the public health core courses or individuals with a graduate degree who had completed the core courses from an accredited school or program and had at least three years of public health work experience. By expanding eligibility to public health professionals who meet the new eligibility requirements, the NBPHE is fulfilling one of the basic tenets of a profession: demonstration of a shared body of knowledge, through an exam-based certification process.

This is an important moment for public health, not only for employers who can begin to use the credential more broadly to select and reward employees, but also for individuals who can distinguish themselves as certified public health professionals. The credentialing process for these newly eligible candidates will remain the same as the process for alumni of CEPH-accredited schools and programs of public health – a passing score on the CPH exam and recertification every two years focused on the demonstration of continued professional development. We invite individuals who meet the new eligibility criteria to consider embarking on this path with us and encourage employers to promote this opportunity among its employees. For those interested in sitting for the CPH under the new requirements, more information can be found on the NBPHE website at www.nbphe.org.

Kansas Health Statistics Reports Soliciting Data Articles

*by Greg Crawford, Director, Vital Statistics Data Analysis,
Bureau of Epidemiology and Public Health Informatics, KDHE*

The Bureau of Epidemiology and Public Health Informatics (BEPHI) regularly publishes the [Kansas Health Statistics Report](#) (KHSR). The KHSR mission is to inform health departments, hospitals, legislators and the public about public health findings based on the use of data available to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Many of the department's epidemiologists and research analysts author articles. Data sources have included vital events, hospital discharges, survey data and Medicaid. If the data/findings can help inform public knowledge of health outcomes and population health, almost any topic is possible in KHSR.

BEPHI recognizes there are a number of local data activities that would serve as the basis of a KHSR article. The bureau is soliciting interest and general submissions of articles. If you have recently published an article in a peer reviewed journal, KHSR can be used to publicize the availability of the article.

KHSR is peer-edited and published quarterly. Articles not exceeding 1,500 words with no more than three tables or charts are sought. The general writing style of the publication follows the style guidelines of the CDC's Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report. Publication guidelines are available on request. BEPHI can't guarantee every article will be published and reserves the right to edit for clarity and consistency with style guidelines.

KHSR is published every February, May, August and November. The submission deadline is the 15th of the month prior to the month of issuance. Articles can be sent to Greg Crawford at gcrawford@kdheks.gov. Past KHSR issues are available at <http://www.kdheks.gov/phi/khsr.html>.

Local Health Department Fundamentals Webinar Series



WICHITA STATE
UNIVERSITY
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
INSTITUTE
Center for Public Health Initiatives

by Sonja Armbruster, Director, Center for Public Health Initiatives, WSU
Michelle Ponce, Director, Kansas Association of Local Health Departments
The WSU Center for Public Health Initiatives (CPHI), with funding support from the Kansas Association of Local Health Departments (KALHD) and content support from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, has developed a three-part webinar series to help

local health department staff learn more about three key elements of the Kansas Public Health System.

- Funding Structure for Local Health Departments, March 7, 12 p.m.
- Local Health Department Governance and Policy, March 28, 12 p.m.
- Workforce Development, April 18, 12 p.m.

The first webinar will cover funding structures for local health departments (LHDs). Most LHDs in Kansas are funded through a complex combination of local tax dollars, state general fund dollars, federal grants that pass through the state to local health departments, federal grants that LHDs have applied for on their own, private foundation grants, and user fees. Managing and understanding the budget and budget process is a critical role for the local health department director. Join us March 7 to learn more about LHD finance fundamentals.

The next webinar is March 28 at noon and will cover LHD governance and policy. This webinar will address the health department's role in relationship to the governing entity and the overall legal authority, obligations and responsibilities, as well as the governing entity's supporting role.

The final webinar is April 18 at noon and will cover workforce development. Effective public health practice requires a well prepared workforce. This includes hiring productive staff who value customer satisfaction, evaluating staff effectiveness, and planning to properly train staff through continuing education. Join us for our final webinar to learn more about workforce development.

Contact Kristina Helmer at kristina.helmer@wichita.edu for registration information or questions.

ACCREDITATION CORNER

KHI & Partners Support CHA/CHIP/Strategic Plan Efforts at the Local Level



The Kansas Health Institute (KHI) hosts [handbooks and guides](#) to support progress toward community health needs assessments (CHA/CHNA), community health improvement plans (CHIP), and strategic plans for local public health departments and for non-profit hospitals. Through a generous grant from the Kansas Health Foundation and in collaboration with the Area Health Education Centers (University of Kansas Medical Center), the Kansas Association of Local Health Departments and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, KHI has worked on a variety of initiatives to assist local health departments in meeting Foundational Public Health Services as well as preparing for accreditation, and non-profit hospitals in fulfilling the IRS reporting standards as outlined in the Affordable Care Act. As part of these activities, KHI and its partners developed guidance documents for the CHA, CHIP and strategic plan. These documents guide agencies through the essential steps of completing the accreditation process. The handbooks can be downloaded [here](#).

PHAB Board of Directors Approves New Five-Tiered Fee Structure



The [Public Health Accreditation Board](#) (PHAB) recently announced the upcoming implementation of a new fee structure to manage and maintain the national accreditation process. The new five-tiered structure bases accreditation fees on the size of the jurisdictional population served by the health department. Applicants who submit an application as a Tribal, state, local or territorial health department after June 30 must use the new [five-tiered fee schedule](#).

Applicant fees are necessary for PHAB to provide quality services to both applicants for accreditation and accredited health departments. The accreditation fee a health department pays supports the assessment of health department applicants against nationally adopted standards and measures and provides the health department with a full suite of ongoing accreditation services. The accreditation fees do not support the full PHAB operations.

PHAB's five-tier accreditation fee schedule is totally new and is based on models similar to other accrediting organizations. Applicants who will be affected by the new fee structure should not compare this structure with the previous fee schedule since this one has been developed with different concepts in mind. As has been done in the past, an updated fee amount under this structure will be published annually. For more information or to discuss your specific fee questions, please contact PHAB Chief Administrative Officer Mark Paepcke at mpaepcke@phaboard.org.

National Public Health Week 2016 Campaign Underway

from the APHA Website

HEALTHIEST NATION 2030

Join the American Public Health Association (APHA) for National Public Health Week 2016. This year's campaign will occur April 4 - 10 with the theme Healthiest Nation 2030. Learn more by signing up to receive updates at www.nphw.org and following @NPHW on Twitter. Mark your calendars now for the NPHW 2016 Twitter Chat. This event will take place on Wednesday, April 6 at 2 p.m. [RSVP here](#). More information on this and other events will be available soon.

Funding Opportunities

Small Health Care Provider Quality Improvement Program Grants Available - Deadline March 4



The Federal Office of Rural Health Policy is pleased to announce the release of the FY 2016 Small Health Care Provider Quality Improvement Grant Program, announcement number: HRSA-16-019. Application materials are available at: <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=280808>.

The purpose of this funding opportunity is to provide support to rural primary care providers for implementation of quality improvement activities. There are several changes to the program this year including alignment of the project with Delivery System Reform (DSR), demonstrating an improvement in health status, and showing a reduction in emergency department visits due to chronic disease. Organizations will identify a patient population to track over the three-year project period, implement an evidence-based quality improvement model to provide a framework for improving care delivery, and use health information technology (HIT) to collect, report and utilize information on cost and quality.

Previous grantees have shown significant improvement in management of patients with chronic conditions, such as diabetes and cardiovascular disease. For example, a current grantee established a transitions care program for patients with multiple chronic conditions, resulting in reductions in emergency department use and hospital readmissions. To learn more about currently funded grant projects, please refer to the Small Health Care Provider Quality Improvement Grant Program Directory: <https://www.ruralhealthinfo.org/pdf/2013-2016-small-provider-quality-improvement-grantee-directory.pdf>.

Applicants may request up to \$200,000 per year for up to three years. The deadline to apply is March 4. Applications must be submitted electronically at www.grants.gov. For further questions on this funding opportunity, please contact Ann Ferrero at aferrero@hrsa.gov or 301-443-3999.

Kansas Department of Health and Environment Aid To Local Funding - Deadline March 15



The Kansas Department of Health and Environment Aid to Local SFY 2017 grant process is now live on Catalyst, the agency's grant application and performance management system. Applications must be submitted by March 15. Please see the Aid to Local [webpage](#) for more information.

Chronic Disease Risk Reduction (CDRR) Grant Applications Now Open - Deadline March 15



The Chronic Disease Risk Reduction (CDRR) grant program provides funding and technical assistance to communities to address chronic disease risk reduction through evidence-based strategies that impact tobacco use, physical activity, nutrition and chronic disease self-management.

Eligible applicants are local health departments or organizations they designate to serve as the project lead on behalf of the community. A consortium of counties may apply together under one application.

View this [map](#) to see which counties are current grantees. For more information about the CDRR grant application process visit http://www.kdheks.gov/doc_lib/index.html.

Call for Pilot Grant Proposals - Community Outreach/Education Grants - Deadline April 3



Funding up to \$15,000 is available for two types of projects from the University of Iowa Great Plains Center for Agricultural Health:

- Community Outreach/Education Grants: The goal of this grant is to enhance delivery of evidence-based agricultural health programs. Community projects are typically submitted by non-profit community entities delivering agricultural safety and health programs.
- Academic/Scholarly Research Grants: The goal of this grant is to create new agricultural safety and health knowledge and to assess and promote best safety and health practices. Scholarly research projects are typically submitted by students, staff and faculty of academic institutions. Research projects will be judged for scientific merit.

Priority will be given to projects addressing emerging issues, vulnerable populations and aging of the agricultural workforce. More information and the forms can be found at <http://www.public-health.uiowa.edu/gpcah/pilot-grant-program/>. Application deadline is April 3rd.

Questions can be directed to Jenna L Gibbs, Research Coordinator, Great Plains Center for Agricultural Health at jenna-gibbs@uiowa.edu.

RWJF Evidence for Action - Call for Proposals - No Deadline for Submission



This national program from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, aims to provide individuals, organizations, communities, policymakers and researchers with the empirical evidence needed to address the key determinants of health encompassed in the [Culture of Health Action Framework](#). The program encourages and supports creative, rigorous research on the impact of innovative programs, policies and partnerships on health and well-being, and on novel approaches to measuring health determinants and outcomes. [Proposals](#) are accepted on a rolling basis throughout the year.

Midwest Dairy Council Announces Nutrition Mini Grants - Due April 1



Midwest Dairy Council is excited to offer 36 - \$200 nutrition education mini grants for RDN/RDs, chefs, dietetic interns, school nutrition professionals, or university extension nutritionists. The nutrition education mini grants are intended for a food demonstration and presentation in a Feeding America affiliated food bank or food pantry setting between June 1 and September 30. The application deadline is April 1, [click here](#) to learn more.

Telehealth Network Grant Program from HRSA - Due April 8



The Health Resources and Services Administration recently announced the [2016 Telehealth Network Grant Program](#) (TNGP), with 20 expected awards and an estimated total program funding of \$6 million due April 8. The primary objective of the TNGP is to demonstrate how telehealth programs and networks can improve access to quality health care services in rural, frontier and underserved communities. TNGP networks are used to expand access to, coordinate and improve the quality of health care services; improve and expand the training of health care providers; and/or expand and improve the quality of health information available to health care providers, patients and their families for decision-making. Eligible applicants include rural or urban nonprofit entities that will provide services through telehealth. Each entity participating in the networks may be a nonprofit or for-profit entity. Faith-based and community-based organizations, and tribal organizations are eligible to apply. There is no cost sharing or matching requirement. Go to [Apply at Grants.gov by April 8](#). Questions can be directed to Carlos Mena at cmena@hrsa.gov.

Request For Proposals Issued for Sunflower Trails - Due May 2, 4:00 p.m.



Sunflower Foundation
HEALTH CARE FOR KANSAS

The Sunflower Foundation is pleased to announce the 2016 Request for Proposals (RFPs) for the [Sunflower Trails program](#). The foundation invites municipalities, schools and non-profit organizations to submit proposals for building, enhancing or connecting trails in order to create safe, accessible places for outdoor physical activity and community engagement. "It is a pleasure to partner with communities on trail projects to encourage physical activity for all ages and abilities," said Billie Hall, President and CEO of the Sunflower Foundation. "It is wonderful to see trails become hubs of activity in a community, providing opportunities for social interaction and for connecting to nature."

There are a variety of funding options for potential trail projects. Applicants are invited to review the following RFPs as a first step to determine the best fit for their project.

- RFP #16-102 – Community-Based New Trails or Trail Expansion. This RFP is designed for communities seeking to construct a trail at least 1/2 mile long, or expand an existing trail by adding 1/2 mile. Funding is available up to \$55,000, contingent upon project budget and bids. All grants require a \$1 for \$1 match.
- RFP #16-103 – Community-Based Existing Trail Improvements. This RFP is designed for communities that wish to improve an existing trail with either safety infrastructure (e.g., bridges), trees for trail shading and/or distance signage. Funding is available up to \$20,000, contingent upon project budget and bids. All grants require a \$1 for \$1 match.
- RFP #16-104 – Community-Based Trail Connectors. This RFP is designed for communities seeking to link an existing trail with another trail or key access point to improve usability. The trail connector may be less than 1/2 mile. Funding is available up to \$30,000, contingent upon project budget and bids. All grants require a \$1 for \$1 match.

For more information on the application process and to download the RFPs and corresponding documents, visit SunflowerFoundation.org/RFPs. Online applications are due Monday, May 2 at 4:00 p.m. Funding awards will be announced mid-June.

Training and Conference Announcements

2016 Schedule Meetings and Conferences Impacting Local Public Health Agencies

[Click Here to Access the Calendar](#)

Preparedness Summit 2016 - April 19 - 22



Resilience – adaptation in the face of adversity – is often the difference between a community that can survive and thrive after a disaster, and one that struggles over years to recover. In 2013, the Rockefeller Foundation created 100 Resilient Cities – an organization dedicated to helping cities around the world build resilience to the social, economic, and physical challenges that are an increasing part of the 21st century. The Rockefeller Foundation and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) are now working together to build a vision for resilient communities. The 2016 Preparedness Summit's opening plenary will explore public health's integral role in making this goal of more resilient communities a reality. HUD's Marion McFadden and the 100 Resilient Cities' Andrew Salkin will join Dr. Nicole Lurie from the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response to discuss their programs and public health's vital place in the federal government's community resilience efforts. Click the logo to learn more about the conference in Dallas and [register](#). Also, Kansas's own, Fred the Preparedness Dog will be giving a demonstration session at the Summit.

WSU Offers Online Badges for the Public Health Workforce



Wichita State University's (WSU) new [badge program](#), which launched August 2015, kicked off with the first of six badges aimed at public health professionals. The Care of Population Health Professions, Badge 1 2, & 3 will continue to be offered in the spring. In addition, WSU will roll out the rest of the Care of Population badges throughout the upcoming semester with Badges 4, 5 & 6 on March 9. The Care of Population badges are tied directly to Tier 1 of the Public Health Core Competencies and provide important knowledge for any professional working in the public health industry. At \$100 each, these badges are very affordable and have already been approved for 7.5 contact hours for both nursing and social work re-licensure. Other licensed professionals may self-submit this course to their licensing board for contact hour approval.

In addition to receiving contact hours, professionals who successfully complete Care of Population badges will receive 0.5 of a credit hour that will appear on a transcript indicating that academic work was successfully completed in a short course. This is especially useful for those who are planning to or are already working through the RN to BSN program at WSU as these are considered credit courses and will count toward their degree.

Learn more about the badge program and how to register through KS-TRAIN at <http://ks.train.org>:

- WSU: HP 570BA, Care of Population Health Professions Badge 1, Course ID# 1059105
- WSU: HP 570BA, Care of Population Health Professions Badge 2, Course ID# 1061762
- WSU: HP 570BA, Care of Population Health Professions Badge 3, Course ID# 1061764
- WSU: HP 570BA, Care of Population: Community Dimensions of Practice Badge 4, Course ID# 1061942
- WSU: HP 570BA, Care of Populations Cultural Competency Badge 5, Course ID# 1061943
- WSU: HP 570BA, Policy Development & Program Planning: Badge 6, Course ID# 1061939

Personal Protective Equipment – Training, Use and Practice for Health and Medical Personnel Dates Scheduled Through June of 2016



Make plans to attend one of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment sponsored trainings on Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). The course is presented by the Kansas National Guard, 73rd Civil Support Team and is designed to provide attendees with information and ample time for hands on practice of donning and doffing. Course content focuses on highly infectious disease events. Specific course information and registration for the PPE training is on KS-TRAIN at <http://ks.train.org>, course ID# 1056977. Space in each class is limited, so mark your calendar and register now to attend. There is no fee to attend this course.

The following are the dates and locations scheduled for the trainings. For detailed course information and address for training venue, go to KS-TRAIN.

- March 8, 2016 – Pittsburg
- March 9, 2016 – Parsons
- March 10, 2016 – Chanute
- April 13, 2016 – Hutchinson (location TBD)
- April 14, 2016 – Hoisington (location TBD)
- May 17, 2016 – Marysville (location TBD)
- May 18, 2016 – Abilene (location BD)
- June 8, 2016 – Oakley (location TBD)

If you have questions, or need additional information, contact Lisa Williams, lawilliams@kdheks.gov or 785-296-1984.

You. Lead. Now. Leadership Development - Monthly Live Session Opportunities



Designed for those at every level, from all sectors who are ready for a transformational leadership development experience, You. Lead. Now. is open to anyone interested in improving their effectiveness to make progress on difficult issues in their community, however you define community.

This impactful three-day program developed and led by the [Kansas Leadership Center](#), will introduce a leadership framework practiced by thousands of alumni across Kansas as well as cover important Public Health Competencies. Participants will receive a certificate upon completion of this program. You. Lead. Now. is a three-day leadership development experience during which you will learn new skills and gain new knowledge and insight based on the Kansas Leadership Center principles: Leadership is an activity, not a position; Anyone can lead, anytime, anywhere; It starts with you and must engage others; Your purpose must be clear and it's risky.

The Kansas Leadership Center (KLC) equips people with the ability to make lasting change for the common good. KLC is different in the field of leadership development with its focus on leadership as an activity, not a role or position. This course is open to anyone seeking to move the needle of tough challenges within their community, however it's defined. KLC envisions more Kansans sharing responsibility for acting together in pursuit of the common good.

You. Lead. Now. will provide:

- Knowledge to create change within an organization.
- Skills to intervene more effectively to help a team or small group make progress.
- Insight into your unique, personal opportunity to make a difference, to lead now.

You. Lead. Now. is offered once each month in 2016, February through November, at the Kansas Leadership Center & Kansas Health Foundation Conference Center in downtown Wichita. To learn more and register for this educational event go to KS-TRAIN at <http://ks.train.org>, Course ID# 1060027.



Achieving Health Equity in Kansas: Where Do We Go From Here - March 31

The educational activity, Achieving Health Equity in Kansas: Where Do We Go from Here, will be held March 31, 7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. at the Kansas Leadership Center in Wichita. This conference is co-provided/co-sponsored by the University of Kansas School of Medicine, Kansas Health Foundation and University of Kansas Medical Center Continuing Education & Professional Development. The Course Director is Tracie Collins, MD, MPH, Chair and Professor, University of Kansas School of Medicine, Wichita.

Course sponsors have convened leaders from around the country and within the state of Kansas to address topics on the current state of health disparities and innovative approaches to reduce health inequities in urban and rural populations. The symposium will serve as a foundation for future statewide efforts to reduce health inequities among Kansans and improve the overall health of our residents. Following this symposium and other planning efforts, the goal will be to develop a Center that has ongoing efforts towards improving the health of our state residents.

Objectives: At the completion of this conference, participants should be able to:

1. Describe the leading causes of death and disability in Kansas by race/ethnicity, gender, geography, age, and socio-economic status.
2. Identify innovative research and health promotion efforts, conducted within the past five years, which have reduced health disparities in communities within Kansas and around the country.
3. Examine models of community partnerships that reduce health disparities.
4. Interpret and apply models of interdisciplinary and inter-professional collaborations that promote health equity and reduce health disparities.

Continuing education credit is available with registration required. To register or view more information, visit www.kumc.edu/ce. If you have any questions regarding the conference, please contact the Continuing Education Office at 913-588-4488 or via email at contactce@kumc.edu.

Your Leadership Edge: A KLC Experience



Your Leadership Edge (YLE) serves as a headquarters where you can access short videos, discussion boards, Kansas Leadership Center (KLC) content and video chats aimed at helping you make progress on your most important leadership challenges. At Your Leadership Edge: A KLC Experience, we know change doesn't just happen if you wish for it while clicking your heels. Instead, change happens if enough people exercise leadership. YLE is a subscription portal that anyone can access from anywhere around the world, unless you don't have a subscription or an internet connection. The portal gives you access to the Kansas Leadership Center resources and teachings, both online and in-person. Your Leadership Edge operates as a subsidiary of the Kansas Leadership Center with all profit directed back to the mission work of the organization.

To learn more about Your Leadership Edge and to register for the education offerings go to KS-TRAIN at <http://ks.train.org>, Course ID# 1060353. There is a \$200 fee associated with this program. KLC hopes you choose to take advantage of this amazing experience. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Janell Linnebur, Program Assistant at 316-712-4953 or email her at jlinnebur@kansasleadershipcenter.org.

News and Resources

Population Health and Preparedness Statewide Call



The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) hosts a Population Health and Preparedness Statewide Call on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 10 a.m. The next call will be March 22. To view minutes from the monthly calls, click the KDHE logo.

New Podcast Series: Resiliency in Disaster Behavioral Health



In a new [audio podcast series](#) from SAMHSA's Disaster Technical Assistance Center, behavioral health professionals and state coordinators discuss strategies for building resilience in individuals and the community before, during and after a disaster. Disaster behavioral health coordinators can use these podcasts for ideas to help build resilience in their own communities.

CDC Highlights Programs that Reduce U.S. Health Disparities

CDC Newsroom

A [supplement](#) to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Health Disparities and Inequalities Report, published in the Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, highlights programs that reduce disparities by race/ethnicity, geography, disability and/or sexual orientation across a range of different health conditions. "Reducing and eliminating health disparities is fundamental to building a healthier nation," said CDC Director Tom Frieden, M.D., M.P.H. "With science-based and effective interventions, we can close health disparity gaps in America." The supplement demonstrates that we can make progress in overcoming public health disparities through meaningful community and local health authority involvement.

Using Different Types of Evidence in Decision Making



Increasing emphasis has been placed on the [importance of evidence](#) in guiding violence prevention efforts. Definitions of what constitutes "evidence" have been debated in the literature and the field. However, most agree that evidence is extremely important for researchers, practitioners and policy makers charged with the task of making decisions around the funding and implementation of violence prevention strategies.

[Understanding Evidence](#) is an interactive web resource developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Division of Violence Prevention that supports public health practitioners in making evidence-informed decisions around violence prevention. The goal of evidence-based decision making is to bring a high standard of research evidence into the decision-making process while taking into account the contextual and experiential factors that influence decisions. This free, online resource offers practitioners and others working to prevent violence important knowledge and resources for using evidence in their decision-making processes. This online tool teaches practitioners how to:

- Define the multiple forms of evidence involved in evidence-based decision making.
- Identify standards of rigor for best available research evidence.
- Identify sources of and ways to collect best available research evidence, contextual evidence, and experiential evidence.
- Identify key stages and characteristics of an evidence-based decision making process.

Smokers' Stories: Five Reasons to Quit



Meet five real people in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) graphic new ads and share their stories with your clients and communities. No one who starts smoking in their teens expects to suffer serious health effects until very late in life. But many smokers have serious health effects much earlier, causing them to miss important life milestones and deeply affecting their spouses, children, extended family and friends. That's exactly what happened to the five ad participants featured in CDC's 2016 [Tips From Former Smokers](#) campaign. They share their very personal stories in new, hard-hitting commercials airing across the United States. The ads urge smokers to quit and to call 1-800-QUIT-NOW (1-800-784-8669) or 1-855-DÉJELO-YA (1-855-335-3569) if they want free help.

10 Reasons to Get Vaccinated



Looking for vaccine information to share with adults including college students? Check out the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) [10 Reasons to Get Vaccinated](#) website for evidenced-based information, recommendations and adult based education information. CDC has a [What Vaccines do You need?](#) quiz that can be shared through your agency's website, Facebook and other social media.

APHA has New Lead Page



Lead is a naturally occurring metal used to make common products like batteries and pipes. While it has beneficial uses, lead can be toxic. We can be exposed to lead by breathing contaminated air or dust, drinking contaminated water or eating contaminated foods. Children can be exposed by eating paint chips containing lead from paint in homes built before 1978, or eating contaminated soil. Click the APHA logo to learn more.

The Neglected Dimension of Global Security - A Framework for Countering Infectious-Disease Crises



The NEW ENGLAND
JOURNAL of MEDICINE

In a recent special report from the [New England Journal of Medicine](#) the authors wrote that the advances in medicine have transformed our defenses against the threat of infectious disease. Better hygiene, antibiotics, diagnostics, and vaccines have given us far more effective tools for preventing and responding to outbreaks. Yet the severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS), the Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS), and the recent West African Ebola outbreak show that we cannot be complacent. Infectious-disease outbreaks that turn into epidemics and potential pandemics can cause massive loss of life and huge economic disruption.

Why the Entertainment Factor Matters in Health Education



For those of us who work in health education, times have changed and using the power of engagement to get our message to land is key. The things that once worked for us have to be revisited and reinvented with a little bit of entertainment magic. Actually, it isn't really about entertainment, it's all about engagement! An article from [InfectionControl.tips](#) provides the three-steps to successful health education.

Job Postings

Applications are being accepted for the positions listed below.

Barton County Health Department

- [Public Health Nurse \(General\)](#)

Ford County Health Department

- [Public Health Nurse](#)

Geary County Health Department

- [Licensed Practical Nurse \(LPN\)](#)
- [Nurse Practitioner \(APRN\)](#)
- [WIC Registered Dietitian](#)

Lawrence - Douglas County Health Department

- [Public Health Nurse](#)

Marion County Health Department

- [Office manager/Bookkeeper/Billing Clerk](#)

Reno County Health Department

- [Health Educator - Grant Funded](#)
- [Public Health Nurse Stand by \(PRN\)](#)

Riley County Health Department

- [Health Department Administrator](#)
- [WIC Supervisor](#)

Sedgwick County Health Department

- [Health - Behavior Interventions Specialist \(BIS\) Disease Investigator](#)
- [FIMR Coordinator](#)
- [Part-time Nurse, FIMR Chart Abstractor](#)



Career opportunities at the Kansas Department of Health and Environment can be found [here](#).

Kansas Department of Health and Environment Program Newsletters

[Epi Updates Newsletter](#)

[Green Guide](#)

[Health Homes Herald](#)

[KanCare Advisor](#)

[Kansas Environmental News](#)

[Kansas Health Statistics Report](#)

[Sammelweis Times](#)

[Kansas Statewide Farmworker Health Program](#)

[Newborn Screening Newsletter](#)

[Nutrition and WIC Update](#)

[Oral Health Newsletter](#)

[What's Happening Wednesday \(Immunization\)](#)

[ZIPS Newsletter - Bureau of Family Health/Children and Families](#)

Public Health Connections Information

To receive the monthly E-Newsletter, e-mail bchs@kdheks.gov.

Previous issues of Public Health Connections may be found at

http://www.kdheks.gov/olrh/public_health_connections.htm.

Send your public health news to

Debbie Nickels at dnickels@kdheks.gov.